

**AB 178 (OROPEZA)**  
**Women's Reproductive Health and Responsibility Act**  
**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**How do you propose to protect these women's health programs?**

If AB 178 were to be signed by the Governor, it would guarantee ongoing, annual funding for these programs. This action safeguards critical women's health programs from annual fiscal fluctuations.

**Why should we protect Adolescent Reproductive Health and Pregnancy Prevention?**

Publicly funded family planning is cost effective and socially responsible. Every dollar spent on publicly subsidized family planning services saves \$4.40 on costs that would otherwise be spent on medical care, welfare benefits, and other social services to women who became pregnant.

**Why should we protect Maternal and Child Health?**

Twenty percent of all California women are uninsured and are less likely to access prenatal health care services because of their uninsured status. As a result, the children of these women face greater health and economic consequences. Programs to serve this population are essential to the future of California.

**Why should we protect Cancer Prevention, Detection, and Treatment?**

The number of deaths caused by cancer has declined significantly in recent years. However, the decreases are probably the result of earlier detection and improved treatment, which must continue.

**Why should we protect Domestic Violence Programs?**

Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to adult women. The National Violence Against Women Survey found that 30 percent of women and 8 percent of men were victims of domestic violence.

**Why do we need to preserve the Cancer Research Program when there is only \$12.5 million in state funding? This does not compare with the ability of the federal government or private foundations ability to finance important research?**

The Cancer Research Program is critical for the health of California women. One of its main principles is that there should be a large focus on the research of gender cancers, such as breast cancer, cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, and others. This research seeks to prevent these devastating cancers. The research aims to develop better diagnostic tools to detect cancers at early stages. And, it works to find better treatments when women are diagnosed, so that they can beat the disease and move on to fulfilling lives. Cancer Research is essential to women's health, and the state cannot turn its back on these women and the disease that afflict them.

**What is the cost of the bill?**

There is no cost to the bill. There is no new money for these programs. AB 178 simply continues the current year funding into the future.

**How many of the programs receive federal funds?**

14 of the 18 Programs in AB 178 receive federal funds. It is critical to maintain general funding for programs that use federal funding. In many programs, general fund dollars are used to draw down federal funding. We should not be making cuts to critical programs that are penny-wise and pound-foolish.

**What is the opinion of the mainstream women's groups regarding this bill?**

Planned Parenthood, Commission on the Status of Women, ACOG, CARAL, and AAUW are supporters of the bill, but did not have time to send in a letter prior to Health Committee.

**Who are the supporters of the bill?**

1. CMA
2. Foothill Family Services
3. Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nursing
4. Community Employment Project
5. CA Nurses Association
6. Breast Cancer Action
7. YWCA of the Harbor Area
8. Teen Pregnancy Coalition of San Mateo County
9. CA Alliance Concerned with School Age Parenting and Pregnancy Prevention
10. Individual
11. County of Inyo
12. Su Casa Family Crisis and Support Center
13. National Health Services
14. Pacific Institute for Women's Health
15. Children's Hospital Los Angeles
16. Sacramento City Unified School District
17. Boys and Girls Club of Santa Barbara County
18. LAVIE Counseling Center

**Is there any opposition to this bill?**

There is no known opposition.

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